

REMARKS

Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 9-16, 18, 19, 24-26 and 30 are pending in this application.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' attorney during the telephonic interviews held October 23, 2010 and October 27, 2010. The rejection identified below was discussed during the interviews.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3-5, 7, 9-16, 18, 19, 24-26 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner has indicated that the proviso that "R⁹, R¹⁰ and R¹⁵ can be taken together with the neighboring carbon atom to form a ring" is indefinite.

Claims 1, 7, 10, 13 and 18 have been amended to delete "R⁹, R¹⁰ and R¹⁵ are taken together with the neighboring carbon atom to form a ring", rendering the rejection moot.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner find that anything further would be desirable in order to place the application in better condition for allowance, she is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

Yoshikazu FUKUI et al.

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